GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7484
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2000
POWER PROJECTS CAUSING DUST
PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any complaints have been received against the existing power projects in India both at State and NTPC level regarding serious environmental hazards due to thermal power plants operation causing cole ash dust penetration in the surroundings;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures proposed/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

(SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI)

(a)&(b) Yes, Sir. Out of 97 large and medium power plants, 21 plants do not have adequate pollution control facilities to comply with the prescribed standards. Complaints have been received for some of these power plants.

(c) The measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government include the following:-

(i) Use of beneficiated coal containing ash not more than 34% with effect from 1.6.2001 has been made mandatory for the power plants located at 1000 Km or more from the pit head and also for those located in environmentally sensitive areas.

(ii) Provision/augmentation of Electro-Static Precipitators (ESPs) to control air pollution.

(iii) Emission and effluent standards for power plants have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act.

(iv) Development of green belts around power plants.